New varieties of Rice

315. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some new varieties of rice have been introduced by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research;

(b) if so, the detailed thereof;

(c) whether seeds have been made available to farmers at cheap rate; and

(d) if not, the steps proposed to be taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDE-0 NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. During last 5 years, 96 new varieties of rice have been developed and released for cultivation.

(b)These varieties have been developed for cultivation in a wide range of agro-ecological situations of the country. Among them, 52 are adapted to irrigated system, 10 for rainfed uplands, 18 for rainfed lowlands, 6 for semideep, 3 for deep water, 5 for hills and 2 for scented rice. Many of these varieties are high yielding and combine resistance to important disease and pests and other desirable agronomic traits.

(c) Assistance is provided on certified seed so as to motivate farmers to grow newly released varieties of rice under the centrally sponsored Integrated Cereals Development Programme of Govt, of India.

(d)Question does not arise.

States affected by Floods

316. SHRI BHAGBAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the name of States, affected by flood during the current year;

(b) the extent of damage reported from those States;

(c) the Central assistance sanctioned for those States;

(d) the specific flood control measures adopted in those States; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Reports on damage due to rains/floods have been received from the States of Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(b) The extent of damage, as reported by these State Governments, is indicated in